

# St. James United Church

Weekly Service Bulletin – July 30th, 2017

## UCW 55th Anniversary Celebration

(by Betty Turcott - with some St. James UCW modifications)

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*Living fully, intentionally and compassionately*

### PRELUDE | WELCOME AND LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH | INTROIT

#### WE GATHER

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge with respect, the history, spirituality and culture of the peoples of the Southern Ontario Anishinabek Treaties, the territory wherein our meeting place resides and our responsibility as Treaty members. May we live with respect on this land and live in peace and friendship with its people.

#### LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

#### \*GATHERING SONG

*Spirit of Life*

**VU#381**

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Spirit of Life, come unto me.  
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.  
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;  
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.  
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;  
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Spirit whispers.

**All: We listen.**

One: Spirit calls.

**All: We answer.**

One: Spirit beckons.

**All: We respond.**

One: Whisper to us above the confusion of our world.

Call to us amid our noisy busy lives.

Beckon to us as we turn to follow the spirit.

Hear us as we celebrate the presence of the spirit in our worship.

#### OPENING PRAYER

**Spirit, you are in the wind. You surround us with light. You fill us with peace.**

**In this time of quiet, may we hear your whisper and your call. Let us**

**respond with joy as we are enfolded in the mystery of a loving God. Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER (Spoken)**

**VU#921**

#### \*HYMN

*Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness*

**VU#375**

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**Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,  
blow thro' the wilderness calling and free,  
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,  
stir me from placidness,  
Wind, Wind on the sea.**

1. You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,  
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;  
and over the eons you called to each thing:  
wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings. **R**
2. You swept thro' the desert, you stung with the sand,  
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;  
and when they were blinded with their idols and lies,  
then you spoke thro' your prophets to open their eyes. **R**
3. You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,  
then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;  
and down in the city you called once again,  
when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind. **R**
4. You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,  
from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams,  
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes,  
with bold new decisions your people arise. **R**

### **THEME CONVERSATION**

#### **CHILDREN'S PRAYER**

Teach us faith, teach us caring.  
Teach us love, teach us sharing.

Help us love your whole creation.  
Make our lives a celebration. Amen!

#### **UCW PURPOSE**

To unite women of the congregation for the total mission of the church and to provide provide a medium through which they may express their loyalty and devotion to Jesus Christ in Christian witness, study, fellowship and service.

#### **WE REFLECT**

#### **HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING** *Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11* **Nancy Sutherland**

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

## **ANTHEM**

*Deep In Our Hearts*

## **EPISTLE READING**

*1 Corinthians 12:1-11*

**Ruth Dwyer**

Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, you were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says "Let Jesus be cursed!" and no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

## **\*HYMN**

*Dance with the Spirit*

**MV#156**

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Dance with the Spir-it ear-ly in the morn-in, walk with the Spir-it through the long day.  
Work and hope for the new life a-born-in', lis-ten to the Spri-it to show you the way.

## **RELECTION**

*Celebrating Spirit*

*\*The congregation is invited to say: "Celebrate Spirit with joy and thanksgiving",  
after hearing the words: "Led by the Spirit? Yes."*

## **WE RESPOND**

## **OFFERING & OFFERTORY MUSIC**

### **\*SUNG OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

*What Can I Do?*

**MV#191**

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What can I do? What can I bring?  
What can I say? What can I sing?

I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.  
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

### **\*OFFERTORY PRAYER**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

## WE GO FORTH

**\*HYMN**

*Here I am Lord*

**VU#509**

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1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.

I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.**

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain,  
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? **R**
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame,  
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? **R**

### **\*BLESSING**

One: And now, go with us, God into the days ahead. Strengthen us for peace.  
Give us wisdom, keep us humble, and may we live and work together,  
and so striving, build a new and better world for tomorrow.

**All: May the Spirit of life strengthen your body.**

One: May the spirit of joy fill your heart.

**All: May the spirit of wisdom enrich your mind.**

One: May the spirit of love open your hands to serve.

**All: Go forth and celebrate the spirit in all you do. Amen.**

### **\*SUNG BLESSING**

*Go Now in Peace*

**Don Besig**

Go now in peace, never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true. Know God will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there, watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

### **POSTLUDE**